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From: ePress Alerts [mailto:ePress\_Alerts@calpers.ca.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2005 4:40 PM  
To: CalPERS ePress Alerts - Health, General CalPERS News  
Subject: CalPERS ePress Alert - CalPERS Appoints New Chief of Health Benefits Policy, Contracts

CalPERS has added a press release to CalPERS On-Line on Health, General CalPERS News.

Title: CalPERS Appoints New Chief of Health Benefits Policy, Contracts  
Date: 1/25/2005 4:23:15 PM

You can find this press release available for immediate viewing at:

<http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?bc=/about/press/pr-2005/jan/new-chief-health-ben.xml>

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ePress Alerts notifies you when CalPERS issues a press release. For more information, contact the CalPERS Office of Public Affairs at (916) 795-3991.

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### Release Schedule

Since press releases are issued as events occur, the ePress Alerts schedule may vary.

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## Press Release

January 25, 2005

**Contact: Clark McKinley/Pat Macht**  
**Office of Public Affairs**  
**(916) 795-3991**

### CalPERS Appoints New Chief of Health Benefits Policy, Contracts

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) has appointed administrator Richard Krolak as Chief of the Office of Health Policy and Plan Administration.

Krolak has headed the System's Long-Term Care Program since November 2003, when he joined CalPERS, and also has been Acting Chief of the CalPERS self-funded plans, PERSCare and PERS Choice, since March 2004. He reports to Terri Westbrook, Assistant Executive Officer for Health Benefits.

"Richard has proven himself to be a highly effective administrator and played a key role in the development of new initiatives in the CalPERS Health Program over the past year," Westbrook said. "I look forward to working with him to continue to ensure the quality and value of our members' benefits."

As Chief of the Office of Health Policy and Plan Administration, Krolak will continue to oversee administration of the self-funded plans and will direct the Health Benefits Branch's Health Policy Unit and HMO Contracts and Compliance Division. He also will continue to serve as Chief of the Long-Term Care Program.

His main tasks will involve aligning members' health coverage options with Board of Administration policies to promote disease management programs, increasing the efficiency of pharmacy spending, holding hospitals more accountable for cost and quality, developing alternative benefit designs, and pursuing more effective contracting models.

CalPERS contracts for health benefits with HMOs Blue Shield of California, Kaiser Permanente, and Western Health Advantage, and oversees contracting for three affiliated association plans for California public safety officers.

Before coming to CalPERS, Krolak had more than 12 years of experience in health policy and insurance issues in both public and private sectors. His most recent service was as the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operations Officer of the California Dental Association, including management responsibilities for the Association's insurance brokerage operations.

#### What's New

- 2005 Member-At-Large Board Election
- Pension Debate Information Center
- CalPERS News Center
- CalPERS eNews

#### Shortcuts

- Board of Administration Information
- Board Precedential Decisions
- CalPERS Facts at a Glance
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- 2004 CalPERS Annual Financial Report

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#### Upcoming Events

- Environmental Investing Conference (PDF, 244 KB)
- Board Meeting Calendar & Agenda

He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside. He received a Bachelor's degree from California State University, Sonoma, and a Master's degree from Washington State University – also in Political Science.

CalPERS is the nation's third largest purchaser of employee health benefits, and serves 1.2 million public employees, retirees, and their families. For more information on CalPERS, please visit [www.calpers.ca.gov](http://www.calpers.ca.gov).

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Dated: 01-25-2005

